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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Atty. Dkt. No.: 1391-22400 Date: March 5, 2002

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement, including completed Form PTO-1449, comprises a list of pertinent art of which Applicants are aware. A copy of each publication listed on Form PTO-1449 is enclosed herewith.

The submission of this Information Disclosure Statement and the references submitted therewith is not an admission that the art cited is "prior" with respect to the present invention, nor is it a representation, that no better art exists. Applicants hereby reserve the right to swear behind or otherwise disprove any alleged "prior" nature of any art cited should the facts support and the situation warrant such an action. It is submitted that the art cited does not constitute a bar to the patentability of Applicants' invention under 35 U.S.C. § 102 or § 103.

No Office Action on the merits has been received in the present application. Nonetheless, in the event that an Office Action dated prior to the mailing date of this Information Disclosure Statement has been issued, please charge Deposit Account 03-2769, Conley, Rose & Tayon, P.C., in the amount

of \$180, so that this Information Disclosure Statement may be considered under Rule 1.97(c).

Respectfully submitted,

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